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Title : Problems being faced by small scale industries in Gujarat due to rise in excise duty on drugs.

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (VADODARA): Sir, the Government of India's notification dated 7 th January, 2005 to charge excise duty on drugs at 15 per cent to 65 per cent of the MRP which was subsequently reduced to 16 per cent to 60 per cent of the MRP, has severely affected the small-scale industries in Gujarat.

The Chief Minister of Gujarat had sent a letter to the Finance Minister for the rationalisation of rates and duty structure. But nothing has been communicated to the State Government as yet in this regard. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to review the situation and protect the small-scale industries in Gujarat, which is adversely affected by the recent Government's notification.